

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for managing data relating to a professional legal services project and making the data available to a user, where the data is maintained in two or more software applications having different formats comprising:

a. a first software application for maintaining data in a first portable format;

b. a second software application for maintaining data in a second format other than said first portable format;

c. a first server;

d. a second server;

e. a professional services project management application;

f. said first server being adapted to communicate with said first software application and said professional services project management application to transfer the data from said first software application to said professional services project management application;

g. said second server being adapted to communicate with said first server and said professional services project management application;

h. said second server cooperating with said first server to communicate with said second software application through said first server to retrieve the data from said second software application in said first portable format and to transfer the data from

said second software application to said professional services project management application;

i. said system further comprising an interface for communicating the data to the user.

2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.

3. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Canceled).

6. (Canceled).

7. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.

8. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

9. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

10. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said second software application is adapted to maintain accounting data.

11. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.

12. (Currently Amended) A system for managing professional legal services project information from two or more software applications in which the data is maintained in different formats, and making the data available to a user, comprising:

a. a first software application for maintaining data in a first ODBC-compliant format;

b. a second software application for maintaining data in a second format other than an ODBC-compliant format;

c. a first server;

d. a second server;

e. a professional services project management application;

f. said second server being adapted to communicate with said first server and said professional services project management application;

g. said first server being adapted to communicate with said first software application to transfer the data from said first software application to said professional services project management application;

h. said first server being adapted to communicate with said second software application to retrieve the data from said second software application in said first ODBC-compliant format and to transfer the data from said second software application to said professional services project management application through said second server;

i. said system being adapted to transfer the data to at least said first software application in said first ODBC-compliant format, and to provide an interface for communicating the data to the user.

13. (Original) The system of Claim 12, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.

14. (Original) The system of Claim 12, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.

15. (Original) The system of Claim 12, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said first software application.

16. (Original) The system of Claim 14, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said Notes database.

17. (Original) The system of Claim 16, wherein said ODBC link tool comprises a Notes Distributed Enterprise Connectivity System.

18. (Original) The system of Claim 12, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.

19. (Original) The system of Claim 12, wherein said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

20. (Original) The system of Claim 12, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow,

conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

21. (Original) The system of Claim 12, wherein said second software application is an accounting application.

22. (Original) The system of Claim 12, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of managing professional services project information, comprising the steps of:

a. maintaining data in a first software application in a first portable format, comprising one or more of an ODBC-compliant, HTML, or other relatively open data format;

b. maintaining data in a second software application in a second format other than said first portable format, comprising a closed or proprietary data format relative to said first portable format of said first software application;

c. communicating the data from said first software application to a professional services project management application through a first server;

d. communicating the data from said second software application to said professional services project management application through said first server

cooperating with a second server to retrieve the data from said second software application in said first portable format; and

e. providing the data to the user through said professional services project management application.

24. (Original) The method of Claim 23, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.

25. (Original) The method of Claim 23, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.

26. (Canceled).

27. (Canceled).

28. (Canceled).

29. (Original) The method of Claim 23, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.

30. (Original) The method of Claim 23, wherein said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

31. (Original) The method of Claim 23, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

32. (Original) The method of Claim 23, wherein said second software application is an accounting application.

33. (Original) The method of Claim 23, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.

34. (Currently Amended) A distributed computer network adapted for use in a professional service practice, comprising:

a. a first software application for maintaining data in a first, ODBC-compliant format;

b. a second software application for maintaining data in a second format other than an ODBC-compliant format;

c. a SQL server means;

d. a Cold Fusion web server means;

e. a professional services project management application;

f. said SQL server means being adapted to communicate with said first software application and said professional services project management application to transfer the data from said first software application to said professional services project management application;

g. said Cold Fusion server means being adapted to communicate with said SQL server means and said professional service project management application;

h. said Cold Fusion server means cooperating with said SQL server means to communicate with said second software application through said SQL server means to retrieve the data from said second software application in said first ODBC-compliant format and to transfer the data from said second software application to said professional services project management application;

i. said professional services project management application being adapted to transfer the data to at least said first software application in said first ODBC-compliant format, and to provide an interface for communicating the data to the user.

35. (Original) The network of Claim 34, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.

36. (Previously Presented) The network of Claim 34, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.

37. (Original) The network of Claim 34, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said first software application.

38. (Previously Presented) The network of Claim 37, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said Notes database.

39. (Original) The network of Claim 38, wherein said ODBC link tool comprises a Notes Distributed Enterprise Connectivity System.

40. (Original) The network of Claim 34, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.

41. (Original) The network of Claim 34, wherein said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

42. (Original) The network of Claim 34, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

43. (Original) The network of Claim 34, wherein said second software application is an accounting application.

44. (Original) The network of Claim 34, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.

45. (Currently Amended) A network for managing professional legal services project information from two or more software applications in which the data is maintained in different formats, and making the data available to a user, comprising:

- a. a first software application for maintaining data in a first ODBC-compliant format;
- b. a second software application for maintaining data in a second format other than an ODBC-compliant format;
- c. a first server;
- d. a second server;

- e. a professional services project management application;
- f. said second server being adapted to communicate with said first server and said professional services project management application;
- g. said first server being adapted to communicate with said first software application to transfer the data from said first software application to said professional services project management application;
- h. said first server being adapted to communicate with said second software application to retrieve the data from said second software application in said first ODBC-compliant format and to transfer the data from said second software application to said professional services project management application through said second server;
- i. said professional services project management application being adapted to transfer the data to at least said first software application in said first ODBC-compliant format, and to provide an interface for communicating said first and second data to the user.

46. (Original) The network of Claim 45, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a shareware application.

47. (Original) The network of Claim 45, wherein said professional services project management application comprises a Lotus Notes database.

48. (Original) The network of Claim 45, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said first software application.

49. (Previously presented) The network of Claim 47, further comprising an ODBC link tool means for communicating with said Notes database.

50. (Original) The network of Claim 49, wherein said ODBC link tool comprises a Notes Distributed Enterprise Connectivity System.

51. (Original) The network of Claim 45, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database, imaging, and reporting data.

52. (Original) The network of Claim 45, wherein said second software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

53. (Original) The network of Claim 45, wherein said first software application is adapted to maintain data selected from the group consisting of: docketing, word processing, Notes database, document management, email, records, forms, workflow, conflicts, expense, budgeting, risk management, project management, database imaging, and reporting data; and said second software application is adapted to

maintain data selected from the group consisting of: accounting, time, billing, expense, cost, and budgeting data.

54. (Original) The network of Claim 45, wherein said second software application is an accounting application.

55. (Original) The network of Claim 45, wherein said second software application comprises a TMC accounting system.

56. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein the data in said second format is incompatible for use by said first software application.

57. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein the data in said first portable format cannot be accessed by said second software application.

58. (New) The system of Claim 1, wherein the data in said second format is retrieved via an ODBC-compliant driver.

59. (New) The system of Claim 12, wherein the data in said second format is incompatible for use by said first software application.

60. (New) The system of Claim 12, wherein the data in said first ODBC-compliant format cannot be accessed by said second software application.

61. (New) The system of Claim 12, wherein the data in said second format is retrieved via an ODBC-compliant driver.

62. (New) The method of Claim 23, wherein the data in said second format is incompatible for use by said first software application.

63. (New) The method of Claim 23, wherein the data in said first portable format cannot be accessed by said second software application.

64. (New) The method of Claim 23, wherein the data in said second format is retrieved via an ODBC-compliant driver.

65. (New) The network of Claim 34, wherein the data in said second format is incompatible for use by said first software application.

66. (New) The network of Claim 34, wherein the data in said first ODBC-compliant format cannot be accessed by said second software application.

67. (New) The network of Claim 34, wherein the data in said second format is retrieved via a SQL query.

68. (New) The network of Claim 45, wherein the data in said second format is incompatible for use by said first software application.

69. (New) The network of Claim 45, wherein the data in said first ODBC-compliant format cannot be accessed by said second software application.

70. (New) The network of Claim 45, wherein the data in said second format is retrieved via an ODBC-compliant driver.